



SPARK GAP

Vol. 38, Issue 12, December 2021 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities*

MARC Holiday Party

This Saturday, December 18 at 8 am, instead of holding our regular monthly MARC meeting we will be having a pitch in Holiday Brunch. We will meet at New Hope Church, 5307 W Fairview Rd Greenwood IN 46142 on Fairview Road just west of Morgantown Road. We will meet in the Activity Center, which is the room we have used in the past for meetings on the lower level. Please bring a dish or beverages to share for our brunch. We will serve the food in the Breakout Room, which is on the lower level left of the west-facing doors where we typically hold testing.

Please bring an item for the White Elephant gift exchange. You don't need to purchase anything if you don't want to, just bring something you have at the shack. The gift exchange will be "Dirty Santa" style. We will also play slides from the year on the projector screen thanks to Jack, W8ISH.

Hope to see all of you Saturday for fun and fellowship. Happy Holidays everyone! Here's looking to the New Year.

73,

Tim

WC9G





BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER 2021

W9HR -- Doug Chapman

KQ9Y -- Chris Frederick

AE9H -- Phil Melick



CLUB DUES FOR 2022

It is that time of year for your dues for the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club.

The dues have been raised to \$25.00 per year as voted on by members present at the November 2021 M.A.R.C. Meeting. The previous amount for dues was not meeting expenses for the year and this is the first dues increase in many years.

Please check out the M.A.R.C. website and you may pay your dues via PayPal.

This also a good time to update any of your information for club records such as license upgrade, change of address or call sign.

This is also a good opportunity for new amateurs to join our club and join in our club activities for 2022.

Please see Jacki Frederick, KI6QOG M.A.R.C. Treasurer

A Wikipedia for Ham Radio?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I and co-author David Sawicki, WA3DS, have just published the *Ham Radio Reference*. The book took quite a while to write because there's quite a bit of information in it. Not only does it contain an extensive glossary of amateur radio terms, there are chapters on:

- CW abbreviations and Q signals.
- Amateur radio bands and frequency allocations.
- Call district, U.S. section, ITU region, and CQ region maps.
- Part 97 rules.
- DX Code of Conduct.
- Traffic handling.

The technical reference section includes information on:

- Units of measurement.
- Scientific notation
- Ohm's Law, power, and decibels.
- Frequency, wavelength, and antenna lengths.
- Resistor color code.
- Schematic symbols.
- Wire and coaxial cable data.
- Data communications interfaces.

The book is available in both [PDF](https://www.kb6nu.com/product/ham-radio-reference/) (<https://www.kb6nu.com/product/ham-radio-reference/>) and [Kindle](https://www.amazon.com/Ham-Radio-Reference-David-Sawicki-ebook/dp/B09MC7WFWV/) (<https://www.amazon.com/Ham-Radio-Reference-David-Sawicki-ebook/dp/B09MC7WFWV/>) versions.

Publishing this book got me thinking about another idea, though. After I sent copies to my colleagues at [Amateur Radio Digital Communications](https://www.wampr.org) (<https://www.wampr.org>), Rosy, KJ7RYV, our executive director, emailed me:

“Dan, this is great! Thank you.

I wonder...what if we made a page on our website that was just a set of links to references like this. It could be helpful, especially for beginners. What do you think?”

At ARDC, we had just created a list of other amateur radio resources for internal use, and I had a similar thought about putting that list online. The list reminded me of the AC6V website (<http://ac6v.com/>), which included all kinds of good stuff for radio amateurs. Unfortunately, as is noted

on the website, “AC6V.com is an archive of Rod/AC6V’s webpages, and is no longer being updated.”

Rod, AC6V, passed in 2008 and many of the links on AC6V.Com are now dead, and much of the information is outdated. And, there are a lot of new resources—like our new book—that are missing. Since there aren’t any other encyclopedic resources for ham radio—at least none that I know of—I am proposing that we form a group to develop a “Wikipedia for ham radio.” It would be a lot of work, but if we could recruit a community of editors, then it might be doable. In addition, a group effort would be a lot more dynamic and sustainable than a one-person effort.

So, I’m throwing this out there. Do you think it’s worth creating an up-to-date AC6V.Com? Should it be a wiki or perhaps some other kind of website? Would you be willing to help? If so, send me an email (cwgeek@kb6nu.com). If there’s enough support for this idea, perhaps we could get the ball rolling after the first of the year.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (<https://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/>), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (<https://icqpodcast.com>). When he’s not thinking up crazy ideas like a Wikipedia for ham radio, he operates CW on the HF bands and plays around with software-defined radio.

MARC is Looking for a Few Good Net Control Operators.

We lost a couple of operators from our team due to health and geographic reasons, for at least during the Winter months. That puts pressure on our rotation cycle.

If you are looking to get certified as an ARES member, this will satisfy the Net Control requirement.

If you would like to join us and help spread the load or just need more information, please contact Steve at k9dy@arrl.net.

-W9HR, Doug Chapman



Staying Flexible and Adaptable: Planning for Communications Continuity

Achieving secure and resilient voice and data communications across the Emergency Communications Ecosystem is essential for public safety agencies to execute their missions. However, as emergency communications systems and functions become more interconnected, they also become more vulnerable to impacts from physical and cyber-based threats and hazards. The National Emergency Communication Plan (NECP) highlights the critical need for public safety organizations to plan for continuity and recovery of critical communications. Despite its importance, the SAFECOM Nationwide Survey found that less than half of public safety organizations build processes into their plans to ensure continuity of communications during out-of-the ordinary emergencies or disasters.

A webinar hosted by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency highlighted the importance of continuity capabilities in the emergency communications ecosystem and provided participants with best practices for ensuring limited loss of critical communications during incidents. Speakers discussed specific communications elements that should be considered; explained how existing capabilities should be updated or upgraded to ensure continuity based on lessons learned; and provided real-world experiences on how jurisdictions have adapted to mitigate mission impacts from communications vulnerabilities.

Continuity capabilities-building principles, practices, and resources are available at the FEMA National Continuity Resource Toolkit and other sites. It's important to periodically review and update or upgrade capabilities and leverage the NECP to understand and build emergency communications resilience.

Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), US Department of Homeland Security

ARRL NEWS DECEMBER 2021

Replica Transmitter will be On the Air to Mark Transatlantic Test Success

A replica [1BCG transmitter](#) will operate as W2AN/1BCG on ± 1.820 MHz on CW, from The Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut.

"We're using type 204-A tubes," said Mark Erdle, AE2EA, of the Antique Wireless Association. "The original transmitter used type 204 tubes. The primary difference is that the 204-A tubes had a thoriated filament that reduced the filament current. Transmissions from W2AN/1BCG will be one way, just like the original transatlantic tests in 1921. An SWL certificate is available by [emailing](#) a copy of the transmitted message.

Transmissions start on December 11 at 2300 UTC continuing every 15 minutes until December 12 at 0400 UTC.

In a separate event on December 12 at 0252 UTC, The Radio Club of America's W2RCA will [make a one-way transmission](#) on 1825 kHz at 12 WPM CW, from Connecticut. RCA members constructed the original transmitter and "shack" used in Connecticut for the successful transatlantic transmissions. In addition to the original 1921 message, a new message will be transmitted that looks ahead to the next 100 years.



The 1BCG replica transmitter with room for additional 204-A tubes for more power.

Those who copy the message qualify for a certificate. -- *Thanks to Mark Erdle, AE2EA, Antique Wireless Association, and to the Radio Club of America*

ARRL and the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) have assembled a list of stations and groups that are organizing events and activities to celebrate 100 years of amateur radio transatlantic communication. Visit <http://www.arrl.org/transatlantic> and <https://rsgb.org/transatlantic-tests>. The sites also include links to many previously published articles and presentations covering the historic tests. *ARRL NEWS DECEMBER 2021*

"The SILENT CW."



Semaphores were adopted and widely used (with hand-held flags replacing the mechanical arms of shutter semaphores) in the maritime world in the 19th century. It **is still used during underway replenishment at sea** and is acceptable for emergency communication in daylight or using lighted wands instead of flags, at night.





About The Santa Net

For the 16th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at 7:00 PM (Central) starting Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, through Christmas Eve, December 24th.

"We enjoy helping young people and their families have a shared Christmas experience that they'll always remember

Pete KE5GGY

Pete Thomson (KE5GGY), of The 3916 Nets, commented on The 3916 Santa Net. He said, "Christmastime is a very special time for our nets every year. We enjoy helping young people and their families have a shared Christmas experience that they'll always remember. And we're thrilled to introduce young people to the excitement of amateur radio."

Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Thomson said that The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members. He said, "In our first year, we connected 10 kids to Santa on Ham Radio and it's grown steadily since. This year, we're expecting over 1,000 children to participate."

Prior to each night's Santa Net, pre-net check-ins can be made at www.cqsanta.com.

Third party rules and regulations apply. The Santa Nets are presented annually by The 3916 Nets. The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters and The Freewheelers are all amateur radio nets that meet on 3.916 MHz nightly. For more information on The 3916 Nets, go to www.3916nets.com For more information on The Santa Net, email KE5GGY at Gmail dot com

BUY, SELL & TRADE

HAM RADIO ITEMS FOR SALE

- Icom IC-2200h 2 meter mobile w/ original box and manual \$150
- Icom IC-230 2 meter mobile \$ 50
- Yaesu FT-8800r vhf/uhf mobile w/ original box and manual \$300
- Yaesu FT-2800m 2 meter mobile w/ original box and manual \$150
- Yaesu Memorizer 227r 2 meter mobile vintage \$ 75
- 2-Motorola CDM750 Low band, 60 w, 4 freq. \$95 ea/\$150 both
- Azden PCS-4000 2meter transceiver \$ 50
- KDK-2033 2 meter w/ original box, mic and manual \$ 50
- Radio Shack HTX-212 2m w/ original mic and manual \$ 60
- Vintage Regency HR-212 12 ch 2m transceiver \$ 50
- Vintage Halicrafter CB-7 6 ch base w/orig mic and manual \$ 50
- Vintage American Bell WWII era headset very good cond. \$ 50
- Uniden Pro510xl 40ch CB NIB \$ 40
- Yaesu FT 727R 2m/70cm HT w/ orig. box and manual \$ 75
- Icom IC-03AT 220mhz HT w/ original box and manual \$ 75
- Icom IC-02AT 2m HT w/expanded receive frqs. \$ 60
- 2-Radio Shack HTX 202 Vhf HTs w/manual \$50 ea/\$90 for both
- 2-Radio Shack HTX 404 Uhf HTs \$50 ea/\$90 for both
- Anytone AT-D868UV DMR HT w/charger and manual \$150
- Uniden BC200xlt HT scanner w/orig. box and manual \$ 40
- Hustler 4BTV 4 band HF 20ft vertical ant. ex cond. \$200

10 % of purchases by members will go to MARC!

Contact: Mike KD9EDP at 317-443-8249 or mdsmithco@juno.com



2022 Indiana Hamfest Schedule

(As of 10 DEC 21)

February 12, 2022

Hendricks Co. Amateur Radio Society

7 AM to 1 PM

Hendricks Co Fairgrounds

1900 E Main St Danville IN

February 26, 2022

Dugger ARC

Duggar Community Building

834 S Hicum St, Dugger IN

March 12, 2022

Wabash Valley ARA

Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds

6550 North State Road 59 Brazil, IN

<https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php>

August 6, 2022

Elkhart East Hamfest

21565 Executive Parkway

Elkhart, IN

<https://elkharteasthamfest.com/>

August 13, 2022

Hendricks Co. Tailgate

Avon UMC

6550 E US 36

Avon, IN

November 26, 2022

Wabash Valley ARA

Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds

6550 North State Road 59 Brazil, IN

<https://www.w9uuu.org/hamfest.php>

2022 National Hamfest Schedule

02/10/2022 - 02/13/2022

Orlando HamCation, 2022 ARRL National Convention

Location: Orlando, FL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://www.hamcation.com>

<http://www.arrl.org/expo>

05/20/2022 - 05/22/2022

Dayton Hamvention

Location: Xenia, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://hamvention.org>

Clubs that are planning a 2022 hamfest, please send in your hamfest application to ARRL soon, so it can get listed on the ARRL website and with the ARRL Indiana. Please use the link below:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfest-convention-application>

Also send a copy of the flyer to kc9rpx@arrl.net So it can be posted in the ARRL Indiana Section newsletter, and Social Media sites.



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month
at the New Hope Church 5307 West Fairview Road, Greenwood, IN 46143.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a *HAM* to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

W9MID Repeater:

146.835/
146.235 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Club Officers:

President: Tim Aldridge - WC9G
Vice President: Rhonda Curtis - WS9H
Secretary: Jim Adams – KB9JMU
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick - KI6QOG
Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick – KQ9Y

W9MID Repeater:

443.525/
448.525 MHz
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email: n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 2nd week of the month.



Thanks to the New Hope Church for the use of their building for meetings and testing.